WO-320 Girdletree Bank Girdletree Private 1901

The old Girdletree bank is rare survivor of small village bank buildings in Worcester County. Since the Stockton bank has been demolished, the only other similarly designed bank stands in Newark. Notable features for the Girdletree bank include the pressed brick front, the slate roof with metal cresting, and the metal cornice that trims the perimeter of the roof. Few changes have been made to this structure since the early twentieth century.

Construction of the Girdletree bank is documented by an entry in the <u>Wicomico News</u>, a Salisbury paper, printed on January 2, 1902. The article announced,

The new bank of George L. Barnes & Co. opened its doors for business at Girdletree, in Worcester county this week. Girdletree is a thriving village and a large oyster shipping station. The new bank is the only one there. The members of the firm are George L. Barnes, a prosperous merchant of Girdletree, and Clayton J. Purnell, of Snow Hill, president of the Exchange and Savings Bank of Berlin, and attorney for the First National Bank of Snow Hill and the Pocomoke City National Bank.

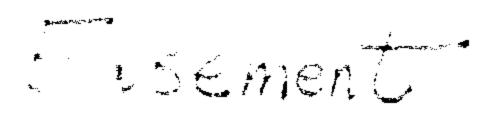
The bank remained open until the 1930s when the Depression and resulting economic difficulties forced bank officials to close its doors.

Easement

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource	Name: GIRDLYMEY BANK
MHT Inve	atory Number: W0-320
MARYLAND	COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:
1)	Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE CIMMENCE
2)	Geographic Orientation: EASTERN Sitone
3)	Chronological/Developmental Period(s): /NOUSTRIAL / URBAN DIMPANCE 1870- 1930 Resource Type(s):
4)	Resource Type(s): 1870- 1930

1. BANK BUILM.NG



Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No	• W(0-320
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Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

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1. Nam	e (indicate p	referred name)		
historic	GEORGE L. BARN	IES & CO GIRDLET	REE BANK	
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	East side of M	ID Route 12		not for publication
city, town	Girdletree	vicinity of	congressional district	First
state	Maryland	county	Worcester	
3. Clas	sification			
Category districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership public x private both Public Acquisition in process being considered xnot applicable	Status —— occupied —— unoccupied —— work in progress Accessible —— yes: restricted —— yes: unrestricted —— no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other: vacant
4. Own	er of Prope	rty (give names ar		
name				
street & number			telephone no	
city, town		state	and zip code	
	ation of Leg	al Descriptio		
		orcester County C		liber
street & number	Worcester	County Courthouse		folio
city, town	Snow Hill		state	MD 21863
b. Kepi	esentation	in Existing	Historical Surve	eys
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date			federal state	county local
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			5 late	

7. Description

Survey No. WO-320

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The old Girdletree Bank stands on the east side of MD Route 12 in the center of Girdletree, Worcester County, Maryland. The single-story brick bank faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in 1901, the single-story seven-course common bond brick bank is distinguished by a pressed brick front and a steeply pitched slate roof. Attached to the back of the rectangular structure is a shed roofed addition.

The west (main) facade is a two-bay elevation with a side entrance and flanking single-pane sash window. The boarded over door is topped by a single-pane transom and a segemental brick arch. A granite slab serves as the door sill. The adjacent window opening, set in a recessed bay, is marked by a segmental arch as well. The gable end is framed with a metal cornice, and fixed within the gable is a lunette window with radiating muntins. Granite slabs serve as the window sills as well. Rising through the center of the building is a single-flue brick chimney stack. The slate roof is trimmed with a metal cresting.

The south side of the bank is marked by an original single-pane sash window topped by segmental arch, and a later smaller window to the east. The north side is defined by two original single-pane sash windows with segmental arches.

The east end is partially covered by the single-story rear shed addition.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance	Survey No. W0-320
Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below prehistoric archeology-prehistoric community planning 1400–1499 archeology-historic conservation 1500–1599 agriculture economics 1600–1699 architecture education 1700–1799 art engineering 1800–1899 x commerce exploration/settlement 1900–	landscape architecture religion law science literature sculpture military social/ music humanitarian t philosophy theater politics/government transportation other (specify)
Specific dates 1901 Builder/Architect	
check: Applicable Criteria:ABCD and/or Applicable Exception:ABCDI Level of Significance:nationalstate	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

> The old Girdletree bank is rare survivor of small village bank buildings in Worcester County. Since the Stockton bank has been demolished, the only other similarly designed bank stands in Newark. Notable features for the Girdletree bank include the pressed brick front, the slate roof with metal cresting, and the metal cornice that trims the perimeter of the roof. Few changes have been made to this structure since the early twentieth century.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

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UTM References	do NOT complete UTM ref	erences	- · ·
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state	code m Prepared By Paul B. Touart, Arch	county itectural Histo date	code rian 10/20/90

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

vicomico News, January 2, 1902

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Girdletree Bank, WO-320 or The George Barnes Bank, 1901 Girdletree, Worcester County

Visited August 9, 1995

The exterior of the bank is adequately described in the yellow form prepared by Paul Touart. On the visit by the OPS staff on the above date, the interior was visited and the following notes taken:

The interior is composed of a vestibule and banking room, behind which are two room, originally Mr. Barnes office and the vault. The frame leanto was added when the bank was converted into a residence. None of the original furnishings remain.

Original trim, doors and windows remain in most areas. The floor was originally wood, but that was removed and a concrete floor poured in its place. The drop ceiling conceals the original plaster ceiling.

Michael Bourne

